Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, During World War II, a series of 100 amphibious ships were built for the purpose of transporting troops and supplies in the planned invasion of Japan; and,

Whereas, In 1945, one of those ships was commissioned as the U.S.S. Brookings because of the outstanding response of the "War Bond" purchases by the residents of Brookings County, South Dakota. Only one other ship received comparable recognition in our state, the U.S.S. South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Active duty for the U.S.S. Brookings initially covered many Pacific ports, transporting troops and supplies, and was scheduled to take part in an amphibious landing on the Japanese Island of Kyushu before the war ended; and,

Whereas, Her most appreciated missions were the two "Magic Carpet" assignments of returning our troops from Japan home to a port in Seattle, Washington. In 1946, she was decommissioned; and,

Whereas, Through the financial generosity of the community of Brookings, a 28" replica of the U.S.S. Brookings was completed and will be unveiled and dedicated at the Brookings County Courthouse:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 24, 2008, as

U.S.S. BROOKINGS MEMORIAL DAY

in South Dakota, and I call upon all citizens to join me in honoring the U.S.S. Brookings and its crew.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State